Land Unit 3.

This land unit consists of the very rocky, hill land form on the granitic dissected plateau at elevations of from about 4,000 feet in the north to about 5,300 feet in the south. The most extensive areas are around The Chalet and to the south-east of The Horn. Part of the Le Souef Plateau is included. The rock outcrops generally take the form of large weather-sculptured blocks of granite (or tors), some of which have been named and are notable tourist attractions. However much of the rock is less spectacular and may form gently shelving outcrops or jumbled masses of smaller boulders (Plate 25).

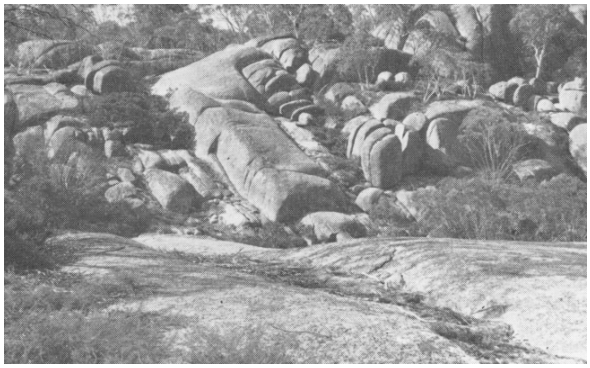

Plate 25. A very rocky area of hill land form with granite tors and shelving rock (Land Unit 3).

The available relief[5] within the land unit is usually only about 100 feet to 250 feet, but the slopes often continue through the much less rocky Land Unit 4, and the overall relief may be over 500 feet where Land Units 6 and 7 occur below these.

The climate is typically sub-alpine with an average annual precipitation of from 70 inches to 80 inches; snow usually lies from late May to September. Estimates of average monthly temperatures based on correlation with elevation indicate a range of from 54° F. to 59° F. in January to 31° F. to 35° F. in July. The abundance of bare rock may result in greater extremes of temperature than for vegetated areas at similar elevations.

The vegetation ranges from mountain gum—snow gum woodland *(E. dalrympleana—E. pauciflora* association) in the east, to snow gum woodland *(E. pauciflora* association) in the south. It is rather sparse and confined to rock crevices and is often of poor form. Some restricted areas of alpine ash forest *(E. delegatensis* association) occur near The Monolith and in other small areas of deeper soils between major rock outcrops.

The soils range from lithosols and raw gravels and sands through acid brown earths under alpine ash, to transitional alpine humus soils and alpine humus soils. However, rock and lithosols predominate.

The difficulties in mapping this land unit have been mentioned.

[5] Available relief : Heights from lowest to highest elevation within land units

Fig. 3

LAND UNIT 3 (Hills at high elevation: granite—very rocky)

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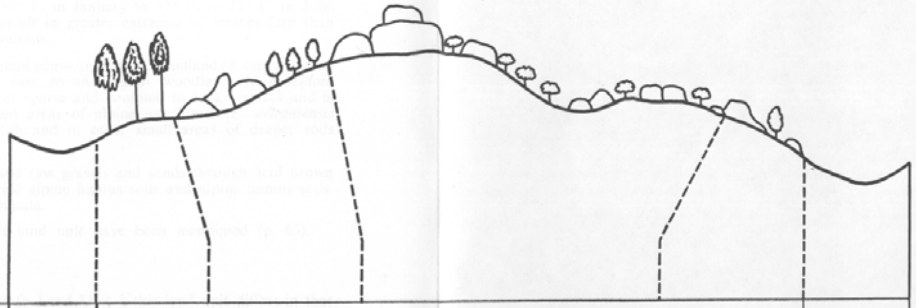

Topography	Land Unit 4	Rolling to hilly dissected plateau. Generally convex slopes up to about 25 per cent. ; abundant granite tors and some shelving outcrops. Available relief about 150—250 ft.	Land Units 4, 6, 7 or 9.
Elevation range		From about 4,000 ft. in the north to about 5,300 ft. in the south	
Estimated average temperatures		Jan. 54° F.—59° F. : July 31° F.—35° F.	
Estimated average annual precipitation		70 in. to over 80 in. with an increase in winter snow persistence with increasing elevation	
Soils		Lithosols are predominant with acid brown earths, transitional alpine humus soils and alpine humus soils in order of increasing elevation	
Vegetation		Woodland of mountain gum—snow gum (*E. dalrympleana–E. pauciflora* assn.) at lower elevations to sub-alpine woodland (or wet mallee disclimax) of snow gum (*E. pauciflora*) ; occasional occurrences of wet sclerophyll forest of alpine ash (*E. delegatensis*), mainly on southerly aspects below 4,500 ft.	
		Alpine ash forest | Mountain gum—snow gum woodland | Snow gum sub-alpine woodland or wet mallee | Mountain gum—snow gum woodland	